

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed 1 June 2005. At that time, claims 1-14, 16-23 and 25-28 were pending in the Application. In the 1 June 2005 Office Action, the Examiner allowed claims 11 and 16-23. At the same time, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 12, 14 and 25-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of U.S. patent No. 6,503,691 (Goodin et al.) in combination with U.S. patent No. 6,513,433 (Inoue et al.). Claims 10 and 13 were also rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al. and Inoue et al. in further view of U.S. patent No. 5,997,993 (Bi et al.).

By this paper, the Applicants have cancelled claims 1 and 9 and have amended claims 2-8, 10, 12-14, 20, 21, 25, 27 and 28. In light of these amendments and the following remarks, reconsideration and allowance of the pending claims is respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

The 1 June 2005 Office Action allowed claims 11 and 16-23. *See* Office Action, p. 6.

Amendments to Claims 20 and 21

By this paper, claims 20 and 21 have been amended to more particularly recite the Applicants' invention. The Applicants submit that the amendments to claims 20 and 21 are completely supported by the application as originally filed and contain no new matter. Claims 20 and 21 depend from allowed claim 16 and are submitted to be allowable, as amended, for at least this reason.

Amendments to Claims 2, 3 and 13

The Examiner has rejected claims 2 and 3 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al. and Inoue et al. and has rejected claim 13 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al., Inoue et al. and Bi et al. *See* Office Action, pp. 3-5. The Applicants have amended claims 2, 3 and 13 to depend from allowed claim 16. Claim 13 has also been amended for clarity. As a result of these amendments, claims 2, 3 and 13 are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Amendments to Claims 4-8, 10, 12 and 14

The Examiner has rejected claims 4-8, 12 and 14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al. and Inoue et al. and has rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al., Inoue et al. and Bi et al. *See* Office Action, pp. 3-5. The Applicants have amended claims 4-8, 10, 12 and 14 to depend from allowed claim 11. Claims 6-8 and 10 have also been amended for clarity. As a result of these amendments, claims 4-8, 10, 12 and 14 are submitted to be in condition for allowance.

Amendments to Claim 25

The Examiner has rejected claims 25 and 26 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al. and Inoue et al. *See* Office Action, p. 5. In this paper, the Applicants have amended claim 25 to recite all of the features of allowed claim 11. Based on this reasoning, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 25, as amended, recites features not present in the prior art of record and is therefore in condition for allowance. Claim 26 depends from claim 25 and is submitted to be allowable for at least this reason.

Amendments to Claims 27 and 28

The Examiner has rejected claims 27 and 28 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious in view of Goodin et al. and Inoue et al. *See* Office Action, p. 5. In this paper, the Applicants have amended claim 27 to recite all of the features of allowed claim 16 and have made corresponding clarifying amendments to claim 28. Based on this reasoning, the Applicants respectfully submit that claim 27, as amended, recites features not present in the prior art of record and is therefore in condition for allowance. Claim 28 depends from claim 27 and is submitted to be allowable for at least this reason.

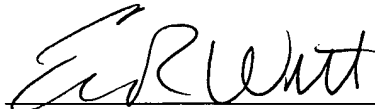
Conclusions

The Applicants respectfully assert that, based upon the foregoing, the pending claims 2-8, 10-14, 16-23 and 25-28 are patentably distinct from the cited references and request that a timely

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Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Evan R. Witt", written over a horizontal line.

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